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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Tibet/China

DATE DISTR. 10 Sep. 1951

SUBJECT Mineral Sources in Tibet

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ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

DATE OF INFO. 25X1A [REDACTED]

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

REFERENCE COPY

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- 25X1X
1. Little mining or prospecting has been done in Tibet. It is the policy of the Tibetan Government not to allow extensive mining because Tibetans believe that the spirits of the earth would be offended by efforts to extract minerals from beneath the surface of the ground.
 2. Gold, sometimes in the form of nuggets, occurs widely, and panning for gold is carried on in some Tibetan areas. There are deposits of iron and gold near the Kham area, where the presence of oil is indicated by traces of slick on the rivers.
 3. Several years ago, a deposit of mercury bubbled up near Lhasa, and people collected it in jugs. This mercury "spring" later dried up.
 4. There are indications of uranium deposits in the northwest plain.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment. The Kham area is in Sikang Province, China.

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